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Museum took a fine specimen of the Roseate Tern (*Sterna dougalli*), which seems to be the first clear record for the Great Lakes. He also took a Blue Goose there and a year or two ago a Parasitic Jaeger.

Somewhat later records than usual are the seeing of Chimney Swifts and Nighthawks on Sept. 21st, a Hummingbird Oct. 6th, and a Black-crowned Nightheron Nov. 19th. One of the periodical incursions of great numbers of the fine Goshawk (*Astur atricapillus*) from its Canadian home, took place in the fall. A Chicago taxidermist took in over fifty specimens for mounting. It must have been a rather general movement, as these came from all parts of Illinois as well as Wisconsin and Michigan.

Not many birds are so obliging as two long-eared Owls, probably a pair, that took up their stand in a Norway spruce near the writer's home. For four weeks one could go there at any time during the day and find them in the same tree, in fact on the same branches of it, ready for an interview. To judge from the number of pellets, etc. below and in the tree, they must have been there for several weeks before they were discovered. On Nov. 15th an Italian captured a Saw-whet Owl alive in a spruce bush nearby and promptly wrung its head off, because its calling disturbed his sleep, he said. The tragedy, that we so often meet with in the lives of the wild!

CRITICAL NOTES ON NEW AND OLD GENERA OF PLANTS.—X.

BY J. A. NIEUWLAND.

THAMNIUM

Because there was an older *Thamnum* Klotsch¹ the moss of that name must receive another. *Thamnobryum* may be suggested.

Thamnobryum Nom. Nov.

Thamnum Bryol. Eur. fasc. 49-51, Mon. (1852)² not Klotsch
l. c. *Euthamnum* Kindb., Hedw. XLI 209 (1902) in part.

¹ Klotsch, J. F., Linnea, XII, (1838), 223.

² Shimper, W. P. Royal Europ., Gen. Musc. Mon. Vol. I-VI, (1836-1855).

Thamnobryum ellipticum (Kindb.)

Thamnium pumilum (Kindb.)

Thamnobryum latifolium (Kindb.)

Thamnium latefolium (Kindb.)

Thamnobryum Bilgelovii (Sull.)

Thamnium Bilgelovii (Sulb.) Kindb.

Thamnobryum angustifolium (Holt)

Thamnium angustifolium Holt

Thamnobryum alleghaniense (C. Miill.)

Thamnium alleghaniense (C. Mell) Bryol. Eur.

Thamnobryum Leibergii (E. Britt)

Thamnium Leibergii E. Britt.

Thamnobryum pseudoneckeriodes (Kindb)

Thamnium pseudoneckeriodes Kindb.

Thamnobryum microalopecurum (Kindb)

Thamnuna microalopecurum Kindb.

ZONARIA

The *Zonaria* J. Agardh¹ (1872) was anticipated by the name published by Strudel (1841)² True the latter was really a *Zornia*, and apparently a misprint for that name. The question arises whether an accidentally published name deserves to invalidate the later published one. In any case the name seems to have been used and the more so likely to be a cause of invalidation under the principle, "once a synonym always a synonym," as it appeared under Steudel's list of Walter's "*Anonymos*." It might be remotely possible at that—that a new generic name were suggested. In any case by strict interpretation of the law, the Agardhian name would seem to be rendered a homonym.

Villania may be used for the name of the alga. Villan³ after whom the plant genus is named wrote about algae as early as 1782.

Villania Nom. Nov.

Zonaria J. Ag. (1872) not Steudel, (1841) l. c.

Villania flava (Clem).

¹ Agardh, J., Til Algrnes Systematik, Nya bidrag II. *Zonaria* (Lund.) Univ; Arsskrift, t. g. (1872).

Steudel, E. T., Nomenclature Bot. 2nd. ed. (1841) p. 101.

Observations (Confenae Sp. *Byssus lanugmosa*) in aguis sulphmeis Croft prope Darlington). London (1782) (8) [See Pntzel 2nd ed. p 404]

Zonaria flava. (Clem) J. Ag.

Villania lobata (Ag.)

Zonaria lobata (Ag.) J. Ag.

Villania turneriana (J. Ag.)

Zonaria turneriana J. Ag.

TAENIDIUM

Taenidium Heer a fossil plant can not keep the name which was earlier applied by *Targioni*¹ to another plant. *Kulmites* may be suggested after John A. Kulm who among other works wrote on Fossils.

Kulmites Nom. Nov.

Taenidium Heer, not Targ. (1826) l. c.

Kulmites Fischeri (Heer).

Taenidium Fischeri Heer.

OUR BIRDS IN THE WINTER OF 1915-1916

BY BROTHER ALPHONSUS, C. S. C.

The species not seen at all this winter were: Hairy Woodpecker, Cardinal, Snowflake, Screech Owl. The Golden-crowned Kinglet had one record, in December. The Goldfinch was found once in December and January, but not in February.

The rare species in December were: Downy Woodpecker, with three records; Bronzed Grackle and Song Sparrow, with seven records; Brown Creeper and Tree Sparrow, with eight records.

The abundant species in December were: Crow, seen daily; Blue Jay, absent only on the 11th; White-breasted Nuthatch, with twenty-one records; Chickadee, not found on the 23rd. The records of this species were unprecedentedly large throughout the winter. In other winters the Chickadee was a very rare species. How shall we account for this difference in distribution? The Snowbird had 16 records this winter, which is a large number for that species; only 7 records were made last winter.

¹ Targioni-Tozzetti O., Cat. Veg. Mar. 80, t 1 (1826)